

Northern Virginia Regional Local Human Rights Committee

Monday May 1, 2006 at 6:30pm

NVTC, Building #1, Executive Conference Room

Committee Members:	Status	Committee Members:	Status
Patricia Fuller	present	Ivenia May	excused
Ann Pascoe	present	Lucy Sotar	excused
Mary Griffith	present	Amy Ashley	present
A.Michelle Petrini	present	Human Rights Advocate	Status
Denise Kaffka	present	Tim Simmons	present
W. Bruce Jennings	present		

General Attendance: Mark Seymor- Child Human Rights Advocate, Adolescent and Family Growth, Inc.- Roma Farge, Braley and Thompson, Inc.- Charlie Laslie, Living Free Health Services- Marietta Warden, Innovative Behavior Treatment Center- Daniel Ofei, Andrew Baumert and Divina Alston.

Meeting Minutes:

Call to Order.

Guest Presentation:

Order of meeting changed due to “guest speaker” Mark Seymor, Human Rights Advocate for Region I and II children’s programs. Mr. Seymor reported that there are 15 “core” children’s programs in Region I/ Northern Virginia and while some are adult and child programs, his focus is children’s programs. Mr. Seymor provided a list of the current programs with which he works. The Chair will provide Mr. Seymor a list of programs affiliated with this Committee with information regarding the types of services provided to assist Mr. Seymor in determining if other NOVA agencies should be working with him (vs. the adult advocates). Mr. Seymor discussed the things he looks for when reviewing a program and various aspects of his job. Mr. Seymor agreed to have his name included in the CC in any correspondence sent to all programs affiliated with this Committee. In addition, Mr. Seymor provided the Committee with his business cards to include in the mass mailing to all affiliated programs advising them of the Committee’s change of address. Mr. Seymor remained at the meeting until the break to hear the presentations of the four programs.

Program Presentation:

Roma Farge of Adolescent and Family Growth, Inc, discussed the services provided by her agency: Therapeutic Foster Care with After-school Program, and age range of clients less than 18 yrs old (21 max). Ms. Farge reported that the agency’s Human Rights sheet has been updated to include the current Advocates contact information. Ms. Farge will mail the updated form to the Committee. Charlie Laslie of Braley and Thompson, Inc. discussed the services provided by his agency: Therapeutic Foster Care and Outpt MH, serving Children, Families and Adults. Mr. Laslie will also mail a copy of the Human Rights form (with the HR Advocate information on it), to the Committee. Marietta Warden of Living Free Health Services discussed the services provided by her agency: private, for profit MH/ SA outpt tx, serving 18 years and older. Ms. Warden will also mail to the Committee a copy of her Human Rights form and will begin to provide human rights training to her staff on an annual basis. Andrew Baumert and Divina Alston (and Daniel Ofei) of Innovative Behavior Treatment Center discussed the services

provided by their agency: Day Treatment (after school program) serving children 6 - 12 years old. There was much discussion regarding the point/ level system used by the program and some concern was expressed by the Human Rights Advocate. Clarification may be sought from this provider in the future. IBTC will also provide an updated copy of their Human Rights form. All programs provided informational materials to the Committee related to their respective programs. All programs and the Child Human Rights Advocate, departed at the break.

Brief Break.

Review Minutes:

Corrected March minutes reviewed and approved. April Minutes reviewed and corrections made. Minutes accepted with noted corrections. The Committee discussed the Annual Calendar to be given to the programs at the Annual Meeting and information to be contained within the calendar. The Committee will discuss this topic further at the next meeting.

Renewed affiliated program update

Family Preservation's \$6 processing fee to Beyond Behaviors was received.

New Member update: Mr. Simmons reported that he did not have the necessary paperwork to complete Suzanne Schuler's application. The Chair provided a copy of Ms. Schuler's application to Mr. Simmons. In addition, the Chair will provide Mr. Simmons' email to Ms. Petrini so that she may email Ms. Schuler's interview form to complete her application. Mr. Simmons will continue to keep the Committee updated regarding the status of Ms. Schuler's application. No new applications for the Committee have been received. Ms. Griffith requested a blank application and was provided one.

Communication w/ LHRC

The NOVA Regional LHRC PO box has been obtained. The new address is PO Box 175 Merrifield, VA 22116-0175. The Committee reviewed proposed "logo"s for the Committee and agreed upon a logo and resulting letterhead and business cards. The Committee reviewed and approved the mass mailing letter re: LHRC change of address to PO Box. HR business cards too (if Mr. Simons' business cards are available). The letters will be copied and the mass mailing will be compiled at the June meeting. The new Human Writes newsletter was discussed and the article submitted to the newsletter by the Chair of All NOVA LHRC Chair meeting. The Chair will continue to provide updates to the Committee.

Advocates Report:

No formal nor informal complaints filed in the last month, per Mr. Simmons. After some clarification, Mr. Simmons reported that there was no formal follow up because one of the parties involved did not follow up. Mr. Simmons presented the Committee with a survey of potential topics for the LHRC seminar in September. The Committee completed the surveys. No further information regarding the training was provided. The Chair asked the Committee members to report to the Chair next month if s/he will be able to attend the training in September. Mr. Simmons was asked if he knew if any of the programs affiliated with this Committee had restrictive behavior programs. Mr. Simmons did not have this information. The Committee will need to follow up with all affiliated programs to secure this information. Mr. Simmons was asked if he was familiar with the "new member handbook" typically given to new LHRC members. Mr. Simmons was not familiar with this handbook but reported he would look into it and will follow up with the Committee.

Elections

Nominations and elections were conducted via public vote. Ms. Pascoe was elected to the position of Chair, Ms. Griffith was elected to the position of Vice-Chair and Ms. Petrini was elected to the position of Secretary.

Old Business: no old business was discussed.

New Business: Ms. May's email resignation was shared with the Committee.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 9:22pm. Next meeting June 6, 2006 at 6:30pm at NVTC 9901 Braddock Road, Building One, Executive Conference Room.